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Regulated Cannabis Industry Engages In Steps Toward Pesticide Enforcement

WACA calls for specific pesticide regulations to protect public safety, establish action thresholds for product recall and public notice

WASHINGTON – The Washington CannaBusiness Association (WACA) today thanked the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) for forwarding emergency rules regarding pesticide enforcement in the regulated cannabis marketplace. WACA earlier this month [submitted proposals](#) to strengthen pesticide enforcement to the LCB as part of the rule-making process. Specifically, WACA shared five proposed solutions:

- Continued robust random testing by LCB.
- Create uniform regulations for labs testing product. False positives and negatives should concern everyone – regulators, businesses, consumers and patients.
- Review how the United States Department of Agriculture manages pesticides in administering the National Organic Program. For Certified Organic products some pesticides are permitted and even for prohibited pesticides, allowances are made if detected at low enough limits due to the challenges of cross-contamination and the persistence of some substances unintentionally introduced.
- Action Levels for prohibited pesticides rather than “zero” tolerances. This creates a science-based system for protecting consumer safety and potentially minimizes errors that could be introduced by labs.
- Support a “disclosure upon request” model so that any consumer, patient or interested party can find out which pesticides, if any, have been applied to the product in question.

“Today is a step forward in addressing pesticide concerns shared by the general public, regulators and the regulated cannabis industry in Washington,” **said WACA Executive Director Vicki Christophersen.** “As an industry, we ask that regulators consider clear and specific guidelines to support compliance with critical pesticide regulations crafted to support public safety: pesticide thresholds that would trigger a recall, public notice requirements in the event of a recall, consideration of successful models in analogous systems, robust testing of products by regulators and strict certification requirements for labs. We look forward to continuing to engage with lawmakers and regulators as they

finalize regulations in this critical work to protect public safety in our quality-controlled and regulated cannabis marketplace.”

About Washington CannaBusiness Association

Washington CannaBusiness Association solely represents Washington’s licensed and regulated cannabis businesses and provides its members with general support and representation before regulatory agencies and the legislature. As an association of cannabis producers, processors and retailers who have gathered to promote the private cannabis industry created by Initiative 502 and our member companies, our mission is to advocate on behalf of our member companies in the legislative, regulatory, legal and public policy arenas.

Learn more about Washington CannaBusiness Association by visiting our website at <http://www.wacannabusiness.org>

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